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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/716,163
Applicant : McNEIL et al.
Filed : November 17, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1654
Examiner : Michelle Flood

Docket No. : 5009-1
Customer No. : 22442

Confirmation No. 3896

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA VA 22313-1450 ON DECEMBER 28, 2004.

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.
BY: *Sherry Lussom*

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir,

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed 28 July 2004. A request for a two month extension of time to extend the time for response from 28 October 2004 to 28 December 2004 is being submitted herewith, along with the requisite fee. Please debit any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

As set forth more fully below, reexamination and reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested.